

Bill 20 (2020) Testimony



FOUNDING KUPUNA

May 11, 2020

Maria Suganuma

Winona Freitas

Rufina Molaka-Lee

Theone Kanuha
PRESIDENT

Keola Nakanishi
VICE PRESIDENT

Lahela Williams
SECRETARY

Dr. C. Kawohi Tuasivi, Ed.D
TREASURER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Henry Foster IV

Jerry Iokia

Wanda Iokia

Leif Mokuahi, Jr.

To: Councilman Joey Manahan, City and County of Honolulu
Chair, Budget Committee and Budget Committee Members

From: Dr. Adrienne Dillard, LSW
Executive Director, Kula no na Po'e Hawaii

Subj: Bill 20 (2020) – Executive Operating Budget for FY 2021
Testimony of Support to the Proposed Budget Amendment for Kula no na
Po'e Hawaii

Dear Chair Manahan and Budget Committee Members,

Aloha. Kula no na Po'e Hawaii (KULA) comes before you this morning to express our strong support of the proposed amendment to appropriate at least \$125,000 for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii and our Lamaku Youth and Family Strengthening Program (Lamaku). Resources will help to support education, collaboration and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakolea.

Founded in 1992 by a small group of women in Papakolea, Kula no na Po'e Hawaii was established for the keiki and families of this Hawaiian Homestead community located in the heart of Honolulu. It was their vision to create a thriving community of healthy, engaged and active learners. Learners of all ages who can excel in their academic pursuits, education and professional advancement and in their personal health and well-being. While at the same time members of a vibrant nation, well grounded in our traditional values, our native language, our cultural practices, and familial traditions. Realizing that we live in a Hawaii of ever changing horizons, they foresaw a community of strong Native Hawaiian leaders engaged with members of our island community as articulate advocates for the betterment of this 'aina ho'opulapula we call home, Papakolea.

Today, KULA and four generations of Papakolea Hawaiian homestead beneficiaries stand proud of the work we've accomplished to bring to fruition the vision of that small group of mana wahine. Together we strive to support the educational advancement of all our residents and neighbors. We work very hard to develop community-based health and education programs. All of this could never have been done without the active and engaged support of many key stakeholders, committed partners and life-time friends of KULA and Papakolea. Together we direct our efforts and work to advance our homestead community. We share a deep respect and sacred connection of aloha, of love for this very special place.

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Programs such as Lamaku is not just an after school program. Lamaku is an essential building block necessary to nurture, support, assist and prepare our next generation of leaders. It is a place where our keiki are cared for. They receive homework assistance, they have the space and technology supports to complete their school projects and they have access to a community library and their own computer learning center. They are supported by a group of dedicated kumu, who teach them our native language, our 'oli and cultural protocols. They have a safe zone and a team of professional social workers who they can trust when life seems difficult. Keiki also have local college students from Chaminade University who are their tutors and community aunts and uncles who teach them various cultural practices, such as building their own Board and Stone, to prepare poi and feed their families. In addition to Lamaku in community, we support our 4 neighboring public schools with wrap around programs such as an afterschool program of ukulele and singing classes at Pauoa School as well music classes at Roosevelt. We partner with Mana Maoli's, Mana Mele project to make that happen.

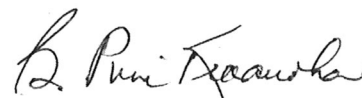
Lamaku as described above is made possible by resources from our City's grants in aid program, awarded to KULA in July 2019 (\$124,991). KULA's first GIA. According to our April 2020 report to OCS, KULA exceeded the # of individuals served by 94% (697/350). One training session of the Papakolea Firefighter Academy was completed in March and 4 out of 6 community events have been completed. Seventy percent of our budget remains.

In this present time of uncertainty, it is important that we band together and provide our keiki and their families with the support systems they so vitally need. Attached to this letter is a petition of support signed by 230 residents of Papakolea.

We humbly ask for your support for a 2nd year of grants in aid funding to continue our work for the keiki and families of Papakolea. An appropriation of at least \$125k for KULA will be used to support the education, collaboration and program development of the Native Hawaiian community of Papakolea.

In closing, thank you in advance for supporting this proposed amendment for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii and the Native Hawaiian homestead community of Papakolea.

Sincerely,


Dr. Adrienne Y. Dillard, LSW, MSW
Executive Director

B. Puni Kekauoha
Associate Director

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:51 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name mila medallon kaahanui
Phone 808 202 4256
Email mkaahanui217@gmail.com
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill20(20)
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization
Organization Hawaii Filipino Coalition for Solidarity
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

My name is Mila Medallon Kaahanui, past president of the Hawaii Coalition for Solidarity.

I'm submitting this testimony in strong support of the Budget Request for funds and positions to enhance immigrant access to services in the City and County of Honolulu within the Department of Community Service.

Written
Testimony

Hawai'i ranks 6th highest among US states for foreign-born residents, and Honolulu has the highest number and percentage of people speaking a language other than English at home with 250,517 people and 27.8% of its population. For those who spoke a language other than English at home, Honolulu County had the highest percentage of population speaking English less than very well at 52%. Tagalog/Filipino with 45,163 speakers, Japanese with 38,561 speakers and Ilocano with 36,561 were the languages with the largest number of speakers living in Honolulu County. Of all the speakers who spoke a language other than English at home, a majority or 52% spoke English less than "very well."

Immigrants face cultural and language barriers, including accessing city and county services and ability to respond to government requirements. Providing access for immigrants will not only assist the immigrant community but will also assist the City and County of Honolulu fulfill its program objectives to provide services.

Thank you for your much needed support for immigrants.

Mila Medallon Kaahanui

Testimony
Attachment



Testimony in Support of City-Funded Security in Chinatown

5/11/20

Aloha Chair Manahan and Committee Members,

Our citizen's group, Chinatown Watch, SUPPORTS amending the City's FY21 budget to fund private security services for City-owned Chinatown properties and the public spaces around them, a/k/a the "City Guards" program.

When the pilot City Guards program started on Feb 3, 2020, serving parts of No. Pauahi and No. Hotel Streets, it had **an immediate positive effect on the subject areas**. Staff at Pauahi Senior Rec Center noted right away a significant drop in violence, swearing and human waste around the building. The manager of a nearby residence said their residents say "it is more peaceful and definitely safer though some still hear loud screaming and fighting at night. However, the majority no longer feel fearful to step outside...."

The City Guards program shows how a City department and concerned citizens can work together to tackle problems. Director Sandy Pfund's team at DLM, HPD and a working group of community members got the program up and running when the Council appropriated the funds last year. Now they communicate regularly about what's working and what needs improvement. **City Guards is a win for our struggling community. Please continue to fund it in FY21.**

We support the new appropriation which extends this successful pilot program to cover more City properties on more of our troubled Chinatown streets. City properties are among the most derelict in Chinatown. The lack of a continuous lawful presence there is one reason why. As they've done on No. Pauahi and No. Hotel, City Guards can support HPD with more eyes, ears and uniforms at trouble spots like the sidewalks abutting Sun Yat Sen Park. Whereas HPD officers do not stay on site once they've cleared an incident, the City Guards are posted at trouble spots for hours-long shifts. This kind of continuity is needed to break the cycle of illegal activity and to prevent new problems.

Please fund City Guards in FY21. Thank you all for your serious consideration.

Respectfully,
Fran Butera, *Chinatown*



Thanks to City Guards, sidewalks at ewa end of No. Pauahi cleared of illegal activity



Page 2

Testimony in Support of City-Funded Security in Chinatown
5/11/20



Smoking crack at Smith Beretania Park



Public drinking at Maunakea Marketplace entrance



Drinking & drugs on sidewalk by Sun Yat Sen Park, Hotel & Bethel



**Broken window at tagged City elevator building,
Pauahi & Nuuanu**



**Squatting, leaving trash in front of City
commercial building tenant, Maunakea St.**



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Arborist, Building & Grounds,
University of Hawaii

Daniel Dinell, President, Trees
for Honolulu's Future

Tom Dinell, FAICP, Emeritus
Professor of Urban &
Regional Planning, University
of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Kevin Eckert, ISA Board Certified
Master Arborist, Arbor Global

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HHF Planners

Sharon Gi, Commercial Real
Estate Division, Kamehameha
Schools

Matthew Gonser, AICP, CFM,
Office of Climate Change,
Sustainability & Resiliency,
City & County of Honolulu

Travis Ito, Blue Logic Labs

John M. Knox, Ph.D.,
John M. Knox and Associates

Terri Koike, ISA Certified
Arborist, Urban Forestry
Division, City & County of
Honolulu

Wai Lee, Smart Trees Pacific

Robyn Loudermilk, AICP, MURP,
State Planner

Lisa Marten, MPP, DrPH,
Healthy Climate Communities

Daniel Simonich,
ProsPac Holdings Group, LLC

Winston Welch,
The Outdoor Circle

WRITTEN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET, HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:00 A.M.

Bill 20 (2020): RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE OPERATING BUDGET AND
PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021.

Aloha Chair Manahan and Members of the Committee on Budget:

Trees for Honolulu's Future is a non-profit organization with a vision for an appropriately tree-shaded island that preserves and enhances our quality of life, especially in the face of climate change.

We are in **strong support of page 11 of Committee Chair Manahan's recommendations in CC-130 (page 44)**. This proviso, setting aside at least \$200,000 for community engagement/outreach to encourage urban forests throughout O'ahu, operationalizes the critical strategies already set by the Council and the Administration.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need to create healthy, livable communities. Trees do just this by bringing multiple benefits, including, cooling, carbon sequestration, runoff prevention and reef protection, human well-being, economic vitality and safety.

Please advance Bill 20 with the above referenced proviso to assist the Division of Urban Forestry in engaging with local residents, homeowners, and businesses. The funds Council is directing for engagement will pay off dividends and generate a high return on investment far in excess of the amount spent.

In Kaimuki we are involved in a community effort to have residents "adopt" City-owned street trees, committing to water them until established. Efforts like this will result in a much better environment/community with the above noted benefits. Through expanded outreach, residents will see the value of planting and maintaining trees, which will save the City money and create a better tomorrow.

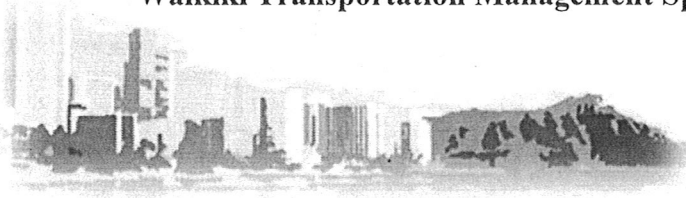
Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Daniel Dinell
President

HONOLULU is HOT TREES are COOL

Visit us: www.TreesForHonolulu.org Contact us: info@TreesForHonolulu.org Voice/Fax/Text: 808-707-6353
P.O. Box 12051, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828

Waikīkī Transportation Management Special Improvement District



*Making Waikīkī better,
One curb at a time.*

TESTIMONY OF RICK EGGED

President, Waikīkī Transportation Management Special Improvement District

Before The

Honolulu City Council Budget Committee

Tuesday 12, 2020

In consideration of

BILL 20 (2020), Relating to the Executive Operating Budget & Program
for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Aloha Budget Committee Chair Manahan and Council Members,

In my capacity as the President of the Waikīkī Transportation Management Special Improvement District (WTMSID), this testimony supports reaffirming and retaining your previous approval of Bill 38 (2019), CD2, to fund the management of curb functions in Waikīkī in a proper, safe and orderly manner.

Waikīkī sits at the heart of Honolulu's tourism economy. The Waikīkī Transportation Management Association (WTMA) was established to coordinate and assist in the management of transportation operations within Waikīkī under the purview of the WTMSID. The goal of the Special Improvement District is to improve the long-term sustainability of transportation and traffic solutions in Waikīkī.

The WTMSID is dedicated to establishing, identifying, and implementing the projects, programs, procedures and technology that will serve Waikīkī with high-quality, multi-modal, transportation facilities and services. This existing and vibrant public-private partnership includes the City, business, residents, landowners and managers, and the freight and private passenger providers. We are grateful to have the City Council and other City officials represented on the WTMSID Board of Directors.

We thank the Council for identifying the new revenue generated from the Supplemental Permit Program and adding those funds to the appropriate expenditure account code. The WTMSID strongly supports identifying funding for loading zone projects, maintenance, and enforcement for Waikīkī.

Sincerely yours,



Rick Egged, President

Waikīkī Transportation Management Special Improvement District

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:13 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Mary Lii
Phone (808)5901653
Email mlili.moetului@gmail.com
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill 20 (2020) Executive operating budget for FY 2021
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony I am in full support of the proposed amendment to Bill 20 (2020)- Executive Operating Budget for FY 2021 to appropriate \$125k for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakolea.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 7:23 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Shana lee
Phone 8083845319
Email makalehua58@aol.com
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item bill 20 (2020)
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony I strongly support the amendment to appropriate funds for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration, and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakōlea.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 6:37 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name	Kalai Chow
Phone	8083985537
Email	kalaichow83@yahoo.com
Meeting Date	05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee	Budget
Agenda Item	Bill 20 (2020)
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?	No
Written Testimony	I strongly support the amendment to appropriate funds for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration, and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakōlea. Mahalo!
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:45 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Michael Tui
Phone 808-699-4157
Email miiketuisr@gmail.com
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill 20 (2020)
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony Aloha, I strongly support the amendment to appropriate funds for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration, and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in the Papakōlea Community Mahalo Nui.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:01 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Lehua Rowland
Phone 9073304126
Email r_lehua@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bil 20 (2020)
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony I am in full support of the proposed amendment to Bill 20 (2020)- Executive Operating Budget for FY 2021 to appropriate \$125k for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakolea.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:38 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Mahealani Austin
Phone 8085614011
Email mahiai@hawaii.edu
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill 20 (2020)ī
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony

Aloha!

I strongly support the amendment to appropriate funds for Kula No Na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration, and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakōlea. I have witnessed first hand the effectiveness of the Lamakū Afterschool Program in providing keiki a safe place to learn and complete their homework. Lamakū is unlike any other Afterschool Program. Besides providing individual homework assistance and providing the tools needed (e.g. computer, internet, supplies, snacks), it also focuses on implementing culture through oli (chant), mele (song) and the use of Hawaiian language. The program was given the name Lamakū which means standing torch. The idea behind this name is that as keiki acquire more 'Ike (knowledge) it allows them to add more light to their own torch which is then shared with their family and community. The passion, creativity and commitment of their kumu, Iolani Ulii & Kawai Kaneakua-Rauchenberg is reflected in the consistent participation of all Lamakū keiki.

Mahalo,

Mahealani Mahiai Austin

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:38 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Eric Wong
Phone 8083710016
Email ewong@mutual-housing.org
Meeting Date 05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee Budget
Agenda Item Bill 20 FY 21 Operating Budget
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? No

Written Testimony Chinatown needs more law enforcement to deal with the illicit activities esp. with homeless individuals who are not mentally stable and well. I've worked in Chinatown for over 10 years as a building manager and have seen first hand how unsafe our streets have become. With the lack of police officers in all our communities, having the funds for private security in the City's FY 21 Operating Budget can mitigate illicit activities around Chinatown.

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: Oren Schlieman [<mailto:oren@infografik.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 3:27 PM
To: Fukunaga, Carol A <cafukunaga@honolulu.gov>; Ribellia, Kimberly <kribellia@honolulu.gov>
Cc: Karl Rhoads <senrhoads@capitol.hawaii.gov>; Hayashi, Glenn <ghayashi@honolulu.gov>
Subject: In Support of More Security Guards and more hours in Chinatown

Hi, Please see my 4 page PDF testimony in support of increasing the strength of the Chinatown Security Guard Program.

Mahalo for trying to help us out.

Aloha, Oren



Attempted Murder at River of Life
Friday April 24, 1:30 PM. Intersection of Maunakea and Pauahi.

We Need More Security Guards in Chinatown. Urgently.

I write you from a second floor corner office at Maunakea and Pauahi, the epicenter of the homeless, drug and crime problems in Chinatown.

Across the street is River of Life, a soup kitchen. Behind me is the City's Homeless Shower and the Mental Health Kokua apartments. To my left is Maunakea Liquors.

When I walk out onto the street I am surrounded by mentally ill people yelling at me or defecating on my sidewalk, abusing alcohol and drugs in the doorways and parking lots, and having violent arguments often turn into physical altercations.

Four months ago this would not have happened.



**Naked Man playing with himself in front of Hale Pauahi, a city apartment building.
Sunday, April 17, 2:43 PM. Intersection of Bertania and Pauahi,**

Covid + Homeless = Disaster

In the middle of February, Chinatown started to feel the impact of the Coronavirus. Rumors were flying around that people who had gone home for the lunar holidays, caught the virus and were working in our gift shops, restaurants and grocery stands.

Business dried up. And then it got worse.

The City decided to stop enforcing the sit-lie law and the homeless flocked to Chinatown. Word got around that there was still free food, cheap alcohol and drugs and that the Police would leave you alone. That brought a whole new cast of characters and upped the lawlessness to levels from a year and a half ago.

It hasn't been this dangerous and unpredictable for a year and a half. Add that to the economic devastation and you have a recipe for disaster.



**An unsafe neighborhood and lost business make it hard to re-open, hence the boards.
Saturday, April 4, 1:32 PM. Hotel St.**

Chinatown is at Another Critical and Vulnerable Juncture

We're trying to get the economy going but how can you do that if you have a crazy, unsanitary and disruptive population ruling the streets?

This past Saturday, the day before Mother's Day, it was the first weekend that the florists were open. It was the first Saturday traffic jam on Maunakea St. I've seen in 4 months.

In the middle of this healthy and vibrant scene the mentally ill verbally assaulted merchants and patrons, slept wherever they wanted, and defecated in the parking lots. I called 911 nine times in the space of 2 hours.

One merchant shut down his newly re-opened store because his customers felt physically unsafe and feared possible contagion from the highly unsanitary homeless.



**Sex in the Street. The other couple are just drinking alcohol. River of Life, Pauahi St.
Monday, March 16, 2:38 PM. Pauahi St.**

Please Help Chinatown Survive

I want to let the City Council know that the Security Guard Program that went into effect earlier this year, in collaboration with HPD, has been very helpful in making Chinatown a safer and better managed community.

Expanding the program both in terms of the number of guards and the number of hours of coverage is critical.

The COVID crisis put us a step back as the Homeless were allowed to stay wherever they wanted and do whatever they felt like doing. HPD was ordered to no longer enforce the sit lie rules, which the Security Guards, working with HPD, help enforce.

With the order rescinded, we need to take the streets back. There aren't enough officers but there could be enough security guards. Please, please help Chinatown, and help create some new jobs for unemployed security guards.

Mahalo, Oren Schlieman, President, Info Grafik, Inc.

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 10:30 PM
Subject: Budget Speaker Registration/Testimony

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name	Kahealanialoha Contemplo
Phone	8083210728
Email	mz.lanialoha@gmail.com
Meeting Date	05-12-2020
Council/PH Committee	Budget
Agenda Item	Bill 20 (2020)
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing Organization	Self
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?	No
Written Testimony	I strongly support the amendment to appropriate funds for Kula no na Po'e Hawaii to support education, collaboration, and program development for the Native Hawaiian community in Papakōlea.
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67